

Co-operatives AUSTRALIA



Minute of conference call meeting, Thursday 28 April 2011 9.20 a.m. – 10:50 a.m. EST

PRESENT: Co-operative Federation of New South Wales (Tony Rogic), Co-operative Federation of Queensland (Jim Howard), Co-operative Federation of South Australia (John Keep, Chris Firth and Trevor Schmidt), Co-operatives Victoria (David Griffiths and Tony O'Shea) and Co-operatives WA (Peter Wells) plus by invitation Trent Bartlett (Deputy Chairman, Co-operatives WA and CEO, Capricorn Society).

1. Preliminaries

1.1 Meeting Notes

The minute of the CA meeting of 14 October 2010 were not considered.

ACTION: Secretary

1.2 Chairperson

It was agreed to reappoint Tony O'Shea as Chairperson.

Moved: Jim Howard Seconded: Tony Rogic CARRIED

2. Business arising from previous minute

2.1 Legislation – Co-operatives National Law

2.1.1 Update

The report from Don Jones regarding progress with the Co-operatives National Law was noted.

Tony Rogic advised that he had nothing to add but that the CFNSW was hoping to arrange a meeting with the NSW Minister for Fair Trading to discuss various matters including Co-operatives National Law.

ACTION: Secretary and CFNSW

2.1.2 Joint Accounting Bodies

Jim Howard advised that he would prepare a draft for consideration.

ACTION: CFQ

2.2 Top 100

2.2.1 Third List

The Secretary reported that the three spreadsheets offered the opportunity to expand the analysis beyond an Australia-wide turnover list e.g. Top turnover, members e.g.(x 10) and employees (e.g. x 10) and sectors (e.g. x 10) by State and a top 10 in each sector for Australia

It was noted that the final draft of the 3rd list had been circulated for feedback and it was agreed that feedback should be provided by close of business Friday 29 April 2011.

ACTION: Secretary

2.2.2 ABACUS Australian Mutuals

It was noted that through our involvement with the National IYC Steering Committee, ABACUS Australian Mutuals was about to enter discussions with Co-operatives Australia about the future development of the list and will provide staff or financial resources up to the value of \$5000 for the 2012 list.

The Chairman asked and there was no objection provided CA retained control of co-operatives on the list.

ACTION: Secretary

2.3 International Year of Co-operatives

2.3.1 Federation Reports

It was noted that interest in IYC 2012 varied:

NSW – response not what we had expected

QLD – limited interest

SA – limited interest

TAS – promising response from co-operatives about various issues including IYC 2012

VIC – minimum response.

WA – has started rolling out initiatives and expect a State Committee to be formed by May 2011 with State Government representation

2.3.2 IYC 2012 Logo

It was noted that the logo for IYC 2012 has just become available and that individual applications to use the logo were required.

David Griffiths reported that on behalf of Co-operatives Australia he had applied for CA to use the logo and Trent Bartlett reported that the IYC Steering Committee had sought to clarify

Trent advised that the National IYC Steering Committee was asking the UN whether the Steering Committee could broker authorisations in Australia.

ACTION: Secretary and Trent

2.3.3 IYC Web Site

The Secretary reported that there will be an IYC Working Party meeting to discuss the development of the web site on 25 May 2011 in Canberra or Sydney.

There was no objection to the web site being a partnership between CA, SBA and the National IYC Steering Committee.

It was noted that CA was not offering any financial support for the development and maintenance of the web site.

CFQ emphasised the importance of CA control.

The Secretary advised that he was confident that the outcome would satisfy all parties and that he would report on progress.

ACTION: Secretary

2.3.4 Co-op Logo

It was agreed that this was not a priority and its development would be influenced by IYC 2012.

ACTION: CFQ

2.3.5 Informatiuon Kit

CV's interest in undertaking initial work on an information kit for IYC 2012 was welcomed.

Co-operatives WA said that it would forward a WA Co-operative Good Business Guide as a resource document.

ACTION: Secretary and Co-operatives WA

2.3.6 Co-op Database

There was discussion on the need for a nation- wide co-operative data.base. The Secretary reported that the National IYC Steering Committee at its meeting on 19 April 2011 had also identified the need for a national database of co-operatives.

It was noted that perhaps the Bureau of Statistics could be persuaded to initiate a survey.

Trent advised that the National IYC Steering Committee would like to work with CA on the development of a national database.

It was agreed that establishing a national database was important and that timing was also an issue i.e. whether it could and should be done before or during IYC 2012.

ACTION: Chairman and Secretary

2.3.7 National Conference

Tony Rogic reported that the NSW conference that was to be held in September 2011 would now move forward to 2012 and this would be discussed at the next CFNSW board meeting.

There was discussion on the possibility of the NSW conference becoming the national conference that had been discussed at the last meeting on 14 October 2010 with CFNSW, CFQ and Co-operatives WA on a steering committee. It was also noted that it had been proposed that the national conference be in Canberra.

Trent advised that the National IYC Steering Committee was supportive of a national conference in Canberra.

Tony Rogic said that he would discuss these matters with his board.

ACTION: Tony Rogic

2.3.8 National IYC Steering Committee

It was noted that Jim Howard had not been accepted as a CFQ representative on the Steering Committee as there was a preference for Chairs and CEOs.

Trent praised David's representation of CA and this was supported by Peter.

NSW, SA and WA all reported that they were unlikely to find CEO's or Chairs willing to serve on the Steering Committee.

3. Other Matters

3.1 David Griffiths

That David Griffiths be thanked for combining the roles of Secretary and Chairperson up to this meeting. Moved: Peter Wells Seconded: Jim Howard CARRIED

4. Further 2011 Meetings

It was agreed that conference calls would be organised on an as need basis.

It was also noted that the next face-to-face would be in Sydney, NSW, in November 2011.

ACTION: Secretary and Chairman

Draft Minute prepared by Secretary – 28 April 2011
Authorised by Chairman: 7 July 2011